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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Atsushi MURASHIMA
Title: SPEECH SIGNAL DECODING
METHOD AND APPARATUS
Appl. No.: 09/627,421
Filing Date: 07/27/2000
Examiner: A. Azad
Art Unit: 2654

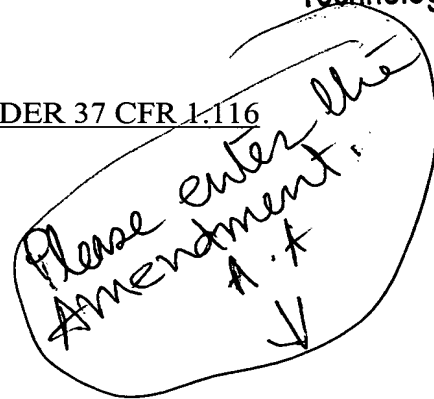
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AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated August 12, 2003, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: